

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1864.

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POLAND CENTER OF STRIFE.

Fierce Conflict for Mastery Continuing Between Germans and Russians.

Germans Claim to Have Captured 80,000 Russians in Fortnight and to Have Checked Russian Advance, While Russians Say Their Victorious Advance Continues—Sortie at Przemyśl Successful—Little News From Western Arena of War.

NAVAL BATTLE EXPECTED.

German Battle Fleet Reported to be Hunting British Fleet.

Copenhagen, Dec. 2.—It is reported that most of the German warships at Kiel have steamed into the North Sea, presumably to attack the British fleet off the West coast of Scotland and North Ireland.

Servian Situation Critical.

Sofia, (via Berlin) Dec. 2.—The situation in Servia is critical. It is reported that the Servian army is being withdrawn from Belgrade and all communication between Belgrade and Nish has been cut off.

Fierce Artillery Battle.

Rotterdam, Dec. 2.—A news dispatch says a fierce artillery battle is raging on the Belgian coast between British warships and the German land batteries. The detonation of the huge guns is plainly audible at Sluis.

Sortie at Przemyśl.

Vienna, Dec. 2.—It is officially announced that the Austrians made a sortie from Przemyśl checking the Russian advance. The fighting continues among the Carpathians without result.

Russians Continue Victorious.

Petrograd, Dec. 2.—It is officially announced that despite the severe cold the victorious advance of Russians along the entire battle front continues. The Russian army is nearing Cracow, and the capture of that town is imminent. The Russians have out flanked the Austrians, capturing the villages of Bochnia and Gummorov.

Many German Fugitives.

Copenhagen, Dec. 2.—It is reported that over two hundred thousand fugitives from East Prussia have arrived in Germany.

Insurrection in Austria.

Geneva, Dec. 2.—Reports of a serious insurrection in Austria have been received. It is rumored that Emperor Francis Joseph will abdicate in favor of the heir to the throne, Archduke Charles. The revolt has grown enormously in Bohemia. Two regiments were decimated by the rebellion.

Germans Check Russians.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—It is officially announced that the Russians are putting up a stubborn resistance but the German campaign is being prosecuted with success. The German offensive toward Lodz is pushing back the Russians in that region.

Premier's Son Killed in Battle.

Amsterdam, Dec. 2.—The son of Premier Broqueville of Belgium has been killed in battle. Another son is mortally wounded. It is reported that another British war fleet put into the North Sea is lying off Ostend.

Capture 80,000 Russians in Poland.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—The official statement today says that the battle in northern Poland is taking a normal course. In southern Poland the Russian attacks are being repulsed. The Germans between Lodz and Wloclawek have captured eighty thousand prisoners in the last fortnight.

Reichstag Convened, Call for More Funds.

Berlin, Dec. 2.—The Reichstag convened today. The Imperial Chancellor urged a further war credit as a stimulus to the troops, declaring that the situation in the east and west is favorable to the Germans.

German Batteries Destroyed.

Paris, Dec. 2.—It is officially announced this afternoon that three batteries of heavy German guns were destroyed by the French in an artillery battle at Vermelles. The allies captured some German trenches in that district after a brilliant bayonet

DUTCH DESIRE PEACE.

SINCERELY NEUTRAL BUT ARE AGAINST LONG WAR.

Van Dyke, Returning From Holland, Says Mediation Movement Has Not Come.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Dr. Henry Van Dyke, American minister to the Netherlands, back from his post on a month's leave, described to Secretary Bryan today the earnest desire of Queen Wilhelmina and the people of Holland for the early ending of the European war.

Dr. Van Dyke denied an oft published report that he was the bearer of a personal letter from the queen relating to peace but said he had reported to Mr. Bryan "the State of mind" of the people of Holland and conditions generally in Europe as he has studied them.

After talking with Secretary Bryan for an hour Dr. Van Dyke indicated clearly that the present did not seem a propitious moment to put forward definite proposals for terms of peace.

"The desire of the United States for peace," he said afterwards, "is a well known fact. The decision as to the proper moment for us to act is in the hands of my chiefs. The president and the secretary of State can be trusted to determine when that moment arrives."

The minister expressed the hope that when the time for the settlement of the war arrived the United States "would play a noble part" in bringing peace. He was also sure that the heart of Holland would be with the United States in such efforts, though he would not venture a prediction as to just what form the cooperation of Holland or other neutral countries might take.

Dr. Van Dyke will talk over conditions in Europe with President Wilson tomorrow, having been invited to take luncheon at the White House. He came to the United States primarily, he said, to have his treatment and expected to leave Washington tomorrow afternoon and sail for Holland on December 12.

While at the State department Dr. Van Dyke told the newspaper men of the efforts made by Holland to care for the Belgian refugees.

"The people of Holland," he said, "are peace loving folk. They are doing all they can for the relief of those in distress. The Belgian people came into Holland in great numbers and we have been striving to give them all the assistance we could. We have organized in Holland the only scheme by which the civilian population of Belgium can be helped. Great Britain, France and Germany have approved what has been done and the work will continue."

Asked as to reports concerning the neutrality of Holland or its sympathies in the present war, Dr. Van Dyke said there was no doubt that the queen and the majority of the people of Holland were "sincerely neutral and desirous for the return of peace."

BELGIANS ARE HUNGRY.

Appeal Sounded Through American Commission.

New York, Dec. 1.—"Ship at once to the nearest seaport."

This message was sent today by the American commission for relief in Belgium to more than 1,000 committees in the United States. The commission has perfected countrywide shipping arrangements and it is expected that vast quantities of food and clothing at various State and city headquarters in a day or two will begin to move to every important port in the United States.

For convenience in handling and shipping foodstuffs, the commission has requested all local organizations to affiliate themselves with State committees. Where there is no State committee the local relief parties are requested to arrange storage depots for small lots that can be assembled in carloads until the commission arranges shipping free of charge to the seaboard or to pay railroad charges in cases where railroads themselves are not shipping free. A system is being worked out so that express and parcel post packages may be sent free of charge to inland centres in each State.

"The commission made public a list of State committees already organized, together with their active heads. They included: Alabama, James B. Rion, Birmingham; Georgia, Dr. F. H. May, Atlanta; Kentucky, Col. Henry Waterson, Louisville; Louisiana, Gen. Arsene Perrier, New Orleans; North Carolina, Wesley Battle, Asheville; Virginia, Col. H. M. Boykin, Richmond.

DETECTIVES AT TRACK.

BLEASE SENDS KIBLER TO RACE MEET AT CHARLESTON.

Attorney General Peeples Acted Under Huger Sinkler's Resolution Passed by General Assembly.

Columbia, Dec. 1.—Acting on the request of Attorney General Thomas H. Peeples, Gov. Cole L. Blease this morning appointed Eugene L. Kibler as State detective, and instructed him to proceed to Charleston to attend the racing meet and to ascertain if there be gambling or other violations of the criminal laws of the State in connection with the meet. The detective is to report his findings to Gov. Blease, who told the Attorney General that he would turn a copy of the report over to him.

Attorney General Peeples acted under a concurrent resolution passed by the general assembly at its extra session, requesting him to investigate the proposed racing meet and to enforce the laws of the State in regard to prohibiting pool making or gambling at such meet. The attorney general in a letter to Gov. Blease said he had no funds to employ anyone to make an investigation or to proceed with litigation, none having been provided under the resolution. He requested the governor to appoint a detective to make an investigation.

The resolution passed by the General Assembly unanimously was introduced by Senator Huger Sinkler, of Charleston.

The following copies of the letters which passed between the Attorney General and the Governor in regard to this matter were given out today:

"To His Excellency, Governor Cole L. Blease, Columbia, S. C.—Dear Sir: I beg to call your attention to resolution passed at the last session of the General Assembly, entitled, 'A concurrent resolution in reference to the Charleston race track,' and to state that the Legislature made no provision in this resolution for furnishing the necessary funds for my employment of anyone or to bring any litigation in regard to the matter. I therefore, respectfully request that you appoint one or more State detectives—as you may deem advisable—to attend the meeting of the said Racing Association, in order to ascertain and report to my office whether the criminal laws of the State are being violated there or not.

"By giving this matter your prompt consideration you will greatly oblige. Yours very truly,

"Thomas H. Peeples, Attorney General."

Governor's Reply

"Hon. Thomas H. Peeples, Attorney General, Columbia, S. C.—My Dear Sir: Your letter of November 30th, 1914, in reference to resolution passed by the last General Assembly in regard to proposed race meet in Charleston, S. C., has been received.

"In reply I beg to state that, in obedience to your request, I have this day appointed Eugene L. Kibler as State detective, with instructions to proceed to Charleston and to attend said race meet, and to ascertain if there be gambling or other violations of the criminal laws of this State in connection with the same, and report to this office his findings. After he shall have made his investigations and filed his report, you will be furnished with a copy of said report.

I have always opposed gambling in any shape or form, and still oppose it. However, I know of no law which prevents horse racing, football, baseball, automobile racing, church raffles or other forms of amusement within themselves, but if gambling is permitted at any of them, of course, it is a violation of the criminal laws of this State, and I shall endeavor to see that the laws are enforced. However, please understand that I do not propose to make of myself a 'spy' or 'informant,' nor will any other respectable gentleman so do. Very respectfully,

"Cole L. Blease, Governor."

KILLED IN FLORIDA.

Wealthy New Yorker Run Over By Train.

Pensacola, Dec. 3.—Captain William Blossom, a wealthy New Yorker, eighty-four years of age, was killed by a train at River Junction last night. His body was hurled at the feet of his daughter.

Alabama Farmer Killed.

Dothan, Ala., Dec. 2.—Pharoah Anderson, a well known farmer, was shot and killed this morning by Jack Holmes, a negro tenant. Holmes escaped but a posse with bloodhounds is pursuing him.

ALLIES ARE ACTIVE IN WEST

Prepare for Great Offensive Movement Against Germans All Along Battle Line.

GERMANS MAKE SOME GAINS IN WEST—MORE DYKES ARE CUT TO STOP ENEMIES' PROGRESS—TURKS CAPTURE RUSSIAN TOWNS AND AUSTRIANS SUCCESSFUL IN SERBIA—RUSSIANS CLAIM VICTORY AND PREDICT FALL OF PRZEMYSL.

Austria Must be Crushed.

Petrograd, Dec. 3.—The Bourse Gazette today says: "Regarding the rumors that Austria is desirous of concluding a separate peace by ceding Galicia to Russia and allowing Serbia access to the Adriatic and ceding to Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, it can be stated that the proposition will be refused. Russia's purpose is the liberation of the Slavs and Russia will never consent to an agreement with Austro-Hungary alone. The war must go on. Austria must be crushed."

Dewett to Be Tried.

Capetown, Dec. 3.—The capture of Gen. Dewett, the leader of the Boer rebellion is expected to result in the speedy collapse of the insurrection. Gen. Dewett will be tried as a traitor.

Offensive Movement Begins.

Paris, Dec. 3.—As the result of a heavy bombardment with the new heavy guns recently rushed to west Flanders, the Germans have been able to make some progress at Dixmude. It is believed the enemy have a foothold on the western bank of the Yser. Fresh British troops are being rushed to reinforce the allies west of Dixmude, particularly in the region of Lampernisse which is under a terrific artillery fire. It is estimated that seven hundred and fifty thousand Germans are now holding the line between Ostend to Ypres. Every development indicates that the allies are in the first stages of a heavy general offensive movement. There is a deadlock in the Woëvre district. At some places the trenches are only forty yards apart. Along the Aisne the allies are fighting desperately to dislodge the Germans.

Russians Continue Victorious.

Petrograd, Dec. 3.—Steady pressure by the Russians have forced the Germans to abandon their offensive movement northwest of Lodz. North of Lodz the Germans made furious attacks but all were repulsed, the Germans falling back to the frontier with the Russians in close pursuit. The surrender of Przemyśl is reported to be imminent. The mortality has been enormous, and the food is almost exhausted. The Austrians have been defeated and are fleeing into Cracow. The Russians are concentrating eight miles outside to storm the city.

Turks Take Russian Town.

Constantinople, Dec. 3.—Turkish troops have occupied the Russian town of Ardamtch, thirty miles southwest of Batoum. The Turks are advancing through the Tchoroks valley. (Official.)

Portugal Mobilizes Army.

Lisbon, Dec. 3.—It is officially announced that the mobilization of the Portuguese army has begun.

New York Cotton.

New York, Dec. 3.—Cotton steady, one to four lower. December seven fourteen, March seven forty-five, May seven fifty-six. Liverpool steady unchanged. Middling four forty.

Allies Cut More Dykes.

Paris, Dec. 3.—(Official 3 P. M.)—Vigorous cannonading marks fighting in the northern district. The Allies have resumed dyke cutting in West Flanders. The floods now extend to Dixmude. The French have made a slight advance in the Argonne region where the attacks of the Germans were repulsed.

Vienna Rejoices.

Vienna, Dec. 3.—There is great rejoicing over the capture of Belgrade by the Austrians. Advice from the south report that the progress of the Austrians in the Valnevo region is greatly impeded by cold and snow.

Aeroplane Raid Essen.

The Hague, Dec. 3.—It is reported that an aeroplane raid has been made

over Essen, Russia, and bombs dropped on the city. Damage unknown.

ops From Australia.

London, Dec. 3.—An army from Australia and New Zealand has been sent to Egypt to fight the Turks.

mans Report Nothing Doing.

London, (Wireless), Dec. 3.—The war office stated today that nothing of importance has transpired either in the eastern or western theatre of war.

SERVIANS LOSE FORMER CAPITAL AFTER HARD SEIGE.

Enemies Had Bellaguered City Since Beginning of War—Emperor's Anniversary Present is News of Success by His Troops.

Vienna (via London), Dec. 2.—Austrian troops today occupied Belgrade, Servia.

The occupation of the city was announced in a telegram to Emperor Francis Joseph from Gen. Frank commander of the Fifth army corps. The message follows:

"On the occasion of the 66th anniversary of your reign, permit me to lay at your feet the information that Belgrade was today occupied by the Fifth army corps."

The city of Belgrade, which was the capital of Servia until the seat of government was removed shortly after the outbreak of the war, has been under attack by the Austrians much of the time for the last four months. Early in August Austrian troops reached the city, but were unable to hold it. The advance of a new Austrian army through northern Serbia during the last fortnight made the position of the Servian troops in Belgrade a hazardous one, and early yesterday it was reported from Sofia, Bulgaria, that the city had been evacuated.

Evacuated Monday.

London, Dec. 3.—In a dispatch dealing with the evacuation of Belgrade and its occupation by the Austrians The Daily Telegraph's Athens correspondent says:

"As the result of a Servian concentration on a new defensive line, Belgrade became isolated and, being ill prepared to stand a siege, was evacuated Monday night."

NO RULE AT PRESENT.

Federal Board Delays Action on State Banks.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Although the federal reserve board will consider at a meeting with State bankers here next week the question of how State banks are to be admitted to the federal reserve system, it was said tonight no general regulations governing the admission of such institutions as have already applied for membership would be made for the present by the board.

The law gives the board authority to make such regulations, but the framing of them has proved difficult. The principal point in question has been the loans made by State banks on real estate. Many instances have come to the notice of the board in which State banks have so arranged their real estate loans that their assets have been as liquid as though the loans were on commercial paper.

WALL STREET WOLF CONVICTED.

David Lamm Found Guilty and Sentenced to Two Years.

New York, Dec. 3.—David L. Lamm, known as the "wolf of Wall Street," was found guilty of impersonating Congressman Mitchell Palmer, with intent to defraud Morgan & Co., this afternoon. He was sentenced to two years in the Atlanta penitentiary. He was later released on ten thousand dollars bail, pending an appeal.